

Johnson Bans Secret Aid CIA By CIA to Private Units

BULLETIN

President Johnson today ordered a ban on any secret financial support by the CIA or any other government agency of any educational or private voluntary organizations. He promised "serious consideration" to move to set up a public-private mechanism to provide public funds openly for overseas activities of organizations adjudged deserving of public support.

By ROBERT WALTERS
Star Staff Writer

The Central Intelligence Agency "is currently carrying on a major campaign within the U.S. of recruiting and, when necessary, blackmailing foreign students who are studying in this country," Ramparts magazine says.

The magazine further charges that the intelligence agency is using six full-time agents working out of regional CIA offices

to recruit the foreign students as "spies against their homeland."

The allegations are made in the magazine's April issue. Ramparts last month touched off a major controversy when it charged that the CIA was heavily financing the U.S. National Student Association.

In its article on foreign students studying in this country, the magazine said "the agents working the campuses operate under a Defense Department cover. They carry Defense Department credentials issued under a pseudonym... the CIA works with foundations and professors who cooperate on the basis of 'national interest,' steering the agent to likely prospects among the students they know."

Quoting a "source intimate with the CIA student recruitment operation," the magazine said the operation is conducted in this manner:

The agent telephones the prospect.

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pect, saying he is from the Defense Department and explaining that he is concerned about foreign students in this country. If the student seems receptive, an appointment is made for a brief interview during which the prospect is sized up.

If that interview proves productive, it leads to a series of additional meetings, during which the student is asked to perform a small service and receives \$10 to \$20 for "expenses."

In receiving that money, the student is required to sign a receipt, which is held as a threat in case he threatens to publicize the venture.

The magazine adds:

"Finally, the proposal to engage in subversion against the student's government is made and substantial cash payments, sometimes up to \$10,000 a year, are offered. Usually the guarantee of permanent status in the U.S., if the student wishes to remain here when the job is completed, is thrown into the deal.

"If the student agrees, the agent then asks him to write out a contract in his own handwriting, and the agreement is irrevocably completed. Once a contract is signed, the student is hooked. He can be intimidated at any time by the threat of forwarding a copy of his contract to his embassy."